



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGIONS 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



258255

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Universal Form Clamp Fire Site

June 29, 2006

BY FAX AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

Universal Form Clamp Co.
840 South 25th Avenue
Bellwood, Illinois 60104

Attention: Michael Phillips

RE: Universal Form Clamp Fire Site, 840 South 25th Avenue, Bellwood, Illinois (the Site)
Confirmation of General Notice of Liability

Dear Mr. Phillips:

On June 28, 2006, and in previous discussions with representatives of Universal Form Clamp Co. (Universal), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Craig Thomas verbally informed Universal that:

1. On June 14, 2006, U.S. EPA provided Universal with a Notice of Federal Interest (NOFI) under the Clean Water Act. That NOFI indicated that U.S. EPA would limit its role to monitoring progress and providing guidance for the cleanup at this Site, provided that Universal performed the necessary work adequately and in a timely fashion.
2. As noted in the NOFI, U.S. EPA has determined that "a pollution incident has occurred or threatens to occur" at the Site.
3. U.S. EPA is also authorized to require or perform cleanup activities at the Site under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended. Under CERCLA, and other laws, responsible parties may be liable for all costs the Government incurs in taking response actions at the Site, including investigation, planning, cleanup, and enforcement costs.
4. U.S. EPA has determined that the following actions are necessary to address the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, including oils, waste oils, solvents and friable asbestos, at the Site:

- a. Characterizing, bulking, and disposing of the contents of aboveground storage tanks;
 - b. Over packing and disposing of 55-gallon drums;
 - c. Lab packing and disposing of laboratory containers for on-site quality assurance/quality control;
 - d. Abating asbestos-containing material;
 - e. Characterizing and disposing of liquids and other hazardous materials discovered or generated in the cleanup;
 - f. Pressure washing floors and other areas that have residual contamination resulting from the incident.
5. In addition, on June 28, 2006, U.S. EPA received a letter from Andre Harvey, Chief of the Bellwood Fire Department, outlining his concerns regarding the stability of chemicals stored at the Site, and the hazard these chemicals pose to employees at the plant and residents in the surrounding community. U.S. EPA concurs with issues raised in Chief Harvey's letter.
 6. U.S. EPA finds that Universal has not made sufficient progress at the Site. To date, Universal has not hired a cleanup contractor to address the environmental issues at the Site and has not provided a work plan to address the cleanup necessary at the Site.
 7. U.S. EPA requires that Universal hire a remediation contractor and develop a work plan by Monday, July 3, 2006, so that work at the Site can begin. Failure to take these necessary steps by that date may cause U.S. EPA to expend federal funds to perform the cleanup at the Site.

U.S. EPA believes you are a potentially responsible party (PRP) at the Site because you own and/or operate the Site. Before the Government takes the necessary response actions at the Site, it is offering you the opportunity to voluntarily perform or fund the work required to abate the release or threat of release from the Site. Under Section 104 of CERCLA, PRPs may be permitted to perform these actions if they can demonstrate their ability to do the work promptly and properly.

Because of the conditions described earlier, U.S. EPA believes that response activities at the Site must begin as quickly as possible. Therefore, U.S. EPA does not intend to use the special notice procedures available under Section 122(e) of CERCLA.

U.S. EPA intends, at the direction of its OSC, to begin the above actions on July 5, 2006. You must notify U.S. EPA by July 3, 2006, if you wish to perform or fund all of the above actions, or U.S. EPA will begin to take the necessary action at the Site. Please contact Thomas Krueger, U.S. EPA Office of Regional Counsel, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, at (312) 886-0562, fax number (312) 886-7160, e-mail Krueger.Thomas@epa.gov, to provide notice or if you have any questions.

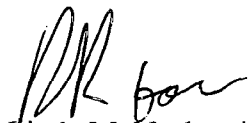
An administrative record which supports U.S. EPA's determination that these actions are appropriate can be made available for your review.

This letter is to confirm and reiterate the verbal notices described above. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact:

Thomas Krueger
Associate Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA, C-14J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590
(312) 886-0562

Michael Harris
On-Scene Coordinator
Response Section 2
U.S. EPA, SE-5J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590
(312) 886-0760

Sincerely,



Linda M. Nachowicz, Chief
Emergency Response Branch #2

**UNIVERSAL FORM CLAMP FIRE SITE
BELLWOOD, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**LIST OF PRPS RECEIVING LETTER CONFIRMING GENERAL NOTICE
SENT ON JUNE 29, 2006**

Universal Form Clamp Co.
Attn: Michael Phillips
840 South 25th Avenue
Bellwood, Illinois 60104